

Watchman Fire Company Firehouse (Mechanics Hall)
Montgomery Street
Baltimore
Maryland

MD-851

HABS
MD,
4-BALT,
177-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

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ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE Maryland		COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY Baltimore
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME) Watchman Fire Company Firehouse			HABS NO. MD-851
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE Mechanics Hall			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES) Montgomery Street			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE) A rare surviving Baltimore volunteer house.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS) Brick painted buff with brown trim.			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE) 3 stories, 3 bays, rectangular.			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE Center bay doorway for engines which projects out from the side bays; large double hung second floor windows; a molded cornice which forms a triangular pediment on the projecting central bay.			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE Instituted in 1840, the company was first quartered in a stable on York Street near Watchman and Butt's foundry. The company's second home was built in 1843 on the west side of Light street by Elijah Watson.			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.) Forest, Clarence H. <u>Our Firemen</u> , Balt: Williams & Wilkens, 1898. p.52			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION Eleni Silverman, Historian, HABS from a report by John Waite, N.P.S. Architect, July 1964.			DATE 3/8/84